

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 207694 TOSEC 100414

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE, MORNING, SEPTEMBER 1

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 44

NEWSPAPERS:

1. NYTIMES (GWERTZMAN): SECRETARY AND ISRAELIS WORKED WELL PAST MIDNIGHT TO COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT TO SET STAGE FOR FORMAL ACCEPTANCE LATE TODAY BY BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL. "ISRAELI OFFICIALS SAID EARLY THIS MORNING THAT THE AMERICANS AND ISRAELIS HAD AGREED TO SEEK COMPLETION OF FOUR DOCUMENTS THAT COMPRISE THE PACKAGE MAKING UP THE TOTAL AGREEMENT:

-- AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT, WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED AND IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE.

-- A DOCUMENT PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN TEAMS THAT WILL WORK OUT DETAILS IN GENEVA FOR PUTTING THE ACCORD INTO EFFECT, WHICH WILL ALSO BE PUBLISHED AND IS ALMOST COMPLETE.

-- A DOCUMENT COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE SINAI PASSES, WHICH IS COMPLETE AND WILL BE PUBLISHED.

-- A LONG UNITED STATES-ISRAELI MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING COVERING EGYPTIAN ASSURANCES TO ISRAEL AND AMERICAN COMMIT- UNCLASSIFIED

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MENTS TO ISRAEL, WHICH IS INCOMPLETE AND WILL NOT BE

PUBLISHED.

ALL THE DOCUMENTS, HOWEVER, WILL BE DEPOSITED WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE."

AMONG EGYPTIAN CONCESSIONS SECRETARY BROUGHT TO RABIN WAS EGYPTIAN WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT UNIT OF 8,000 TROOPS ON BOTH SIDES IN AREAS ADJACENT TO NEW UN BUFFER AREA, EGYPTIANS HAD ORIGINALLY ASKED 15,000 AND ISRAELIS 7,000.

"ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A CHANCE THAT SOME ISSUE MIGHT ARISE TO BRING DOWN THE AGREEMENT, MR. KISSINGER BELIEVED THAT IT WAS 'ALMOST INCONCEIVABLE' THAT HAVING COME THIS FAR, THE EGYPTIANS OR ISRAELIS WOULD LET THE AGREEMENT FAIL, AS THEY DID IN MARCH WHEN HIS MISSION FAILED."

AMERICAN REPORTERS HAD AN UNUSUAL CHANCE TO OBSERVE THE DIPLOMACY IN ACTION UNKNOWN TO THE PARTICIPANTS WHEN REPORTERS WERE BROUGHT INTO AREA OF SADAT'S HOUSE TO BOARD HELICOPTER FOR AIRPORT.

"MR. KISSINGER APPARENTLY DID NOT SEE THE CORRESPONDENTS, BECAUSE HE WAS SEEN WALKING IN DEEP CONVERSATION WITH MR. SISCO, HIS TOP ADVISER, AND THEN ALONE, HIS FACE GRIM, KICKING A STONE IN FRONT OF HIM, BEFORE WALKING BACK TO THE NEGOTIATING GROUP.

THEN MR. KISSINGER, MR. SISCO AND MR. FAHMY WERE SEEN WALKING AND TALKING TOGETHER. LATER MR. KISSINGER AND MR. FAHMY TALKED ALONE. FINALLY MR. KISSINGER SPOTTED THE REPORTERS AND TOLD MR. FAHMY TO SMILE FOR THEM AND THEY BROKE FROM THEIR SERIOUS DEMEANORS.

LATER, THE REPORTERS WERE TOLD THAT DURING THESE STROLLS, THE EGYPTIANS MADE A CONCESSION THAT CLEARED UP ONE OF THE REMAINING ISSUES."

2. WASHPOST - (BERGER) "ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS TODAY ACCEPTED TERMS OF AN AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT FOR A NEW WITHDRAWAL IN THE SINAI PENINSULA." ...
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"KISSINGER SAID THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WERE COMPLETED AND ONLY ONE MORE STEP REMAINED, A COMPARISON OF TEXTS IN EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI HANDS.

THE AGREEMENT CONSISTS OF A DOCUMENT AND SEVERAL ANNEXES TO BE INITIALED BY ISRAEL AND EGYPT. THERE WILL ALSO BE SOME UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS INCLUDING U.S. PLEDGES OF AID AND SUPPORT TO ISRAEL AND EGYPTIAN ASSURANCES TO ISRAEL THAT WILL BE CONVEYED TO THE UNITED STATES."

"AS THE SUN WAS RISING OVER THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM, KISSINGER SAID THAT HE STILL HOPES TO BE ABLE TO GO TO ALEXANDRIA LATER TONIGHT FOR THE EGYPTIAN

INITIALING, DEPENDING ON HOW LONG THE ISRAELI CABINET DELIBERATIONS LAST."...

"U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THAT IN THE COURSE OF THE TALKS THE SIDES MOVED CLOSER. SPOKESMAN ROBERT ANDERSON SAID THE ISSUE OF AMERICAN TECHNICIANS, WHO WILL MAN EARLY WARNING INSTALLATIONS, WAS PINNED DOWN DEFINITELY YESTERDAY. HOWEVER, HE WOULD NOT SAY WHETHER THEY WILL MAN TWO INSTALLATIONS ON THEIR OWN, OR THREE, THE LAST REMAINING QUESTION." ...

"AN ISRAELI SOURCE SAID THAT WAS ONE OF THE MAIN SUBJECTS OF LAST NIGHT'S NEGOTIATIONS, HAVING BEEN LEFT UNTIL THE VERY END OF THE TALKS. HE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT BY PUTTING OFF THESE ISSUES -- WHICH ARE CRITICAL TO ISRAELI PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTROVERSIAL AGREEMENT-- ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS ARE IN EFFECT FORCED TO TAKE WHAT THEY CAN GET, FOR THE AGREEMENT ITSELF IS A FAIT ACCOMPLI."

...

IN RETURN FOR THE ISRAELI PULLBACK, "ISRAEL IS RECEIVING WRITTEN ASSURANCES OF PASSAGE FOR GOODS THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL, RECOGNITION OF THE STRAITS OF BAB EL MANDEB LINKING THE RED SEA WITH THE GULF OF ADEN AS AN INTERNATIONAL WATERWAY IN WHICH IT WILL ENJOY FREEDOM OF THE SEAS, AND AN EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT TO RENEWAL OF THE UN BUFFER FORCE ANNUALLY FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS.
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"THERE WILL BE A MUTUAL PLEDGE NOT TO RESORT TO FORCE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

"ISRAEL IS ALSO RECEIVING, IN ADDITION TO THE STATIONING OF U.S. CIVILIAN TECHNICIANS IN THE SINAI PASSES, PLEDGES FROM THE U.S. OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID AS WELL AS A SERIES OF POLITICAL COMMITMENTS.

"KISSINGER HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO PUT ASIDE THOSE ISSUES THAT SEEMED INSOLUBLE AT THE MOMENT AND TO GO ON TO RESOLVE OTHER ISSUES. REPORTERS WERE TOLD THIS APPROACH MAKES IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW THE WHOLE PROCESS UP OVER ONE OR TWO ISSUES." ...

WIRES:

REUTERS (LARS NELSON) FROM JERUSALEM: "ISRAEL AGREED EARLY TODAY TO ACCEPT TERMS FOR A NEW INTERIM PEACE SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER SAID.

"I THINK WE HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY CONCLUDED OUR NEGOTIATIONS," DR. KISSINGER SAID THIS MORNING AFTER A MARATHON OVER-

NIGHT SESSION WITH THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM. . .

"INFORMED SOURCES SAID THE AGREEMENT CONTAINED FOUR PARTS:

- A PUBLIC ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT COVERING NEW TROOP LINES AND POLITICAL PLEDGES.
- AN APPENDIX CONTAINING MAPS AND GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATORS, WHO WILL WORK OUT THE EXACT NEW TROOP POSITIONS THAT WILL FOLLOW AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FURTHER EAST IN THE SINAI DESERT.
- A DOCUMENT COVERING THE STATIONING OF AMERICAN CIVILIAN TECHNICIANS IN THE BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI TROOPS.
- AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL, CONTAINING 26 PARAGRAPHS WHICH WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC.

"AMONG THE PROBLEMS RESOLVED WERE A COMPROMISE ON AN EGYPTIAN DEMAND FOR 15,000 TROOPS IN A LIMITED-FORCES ZONE
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WEST OF THE BUFFER BETWEEN THE TWO ARMIES. THE COMPROMISE FIGURE WILL BE 8,000 MEN, INFORMED SOURCES SAID. THE TWO SIDES ALSO AGREED THERE WOULD BE TWO MANNED AMERICAN MONITORING STATIONS AND FOUR UNMANNED STATIONS IN THE BUFFER ZONE TO DETECT VIOLATIONS OF THE CEASE-FIRE OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

"FOR DR. KISSINGER, THE AGREEMENT REPRESENTED A SUCCESS AFTER FIVE MONTHS OF ATTEMPTS TO REPAIR THE FAILURE OF HIS EFFORT IN MARCH TO GET AN INTERIM AGREEMENT. . .

"DR. KISSINGER, WHO APPEARED TIRED BUT BOUYANT THIS MORNING AS HE REPORTED ON THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, SAID HE AND THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH EGYPT DURING THE NIGHT. HE SAID HE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO GO TO ALEXANDRIA THIS EVENING TO INITIAL THE AGREEMENT, FOLLOWING THE ISRAELI INITIALLING HERE. . .

"EARLIER AN ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAID THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD BE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE WORKING GROUP ON DEFINING THE NEW TROOP POSITIONS. THE GROUP ALSO WILL INCLUDE A U.N. REPRESENTATIVE, HE SAID. THE UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES WILL BE GIVEN TO THE RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF THE TWO LEGISLATURES BUT NOT MADE PUBLIC, THE OFFICIAL ADDED.

"HE SAID THE AMOUNT OF INCREASED U.S. AID TO ISRAEL CALLED FOR UNDER THE AGREEMENT HAD NOT BEEN DETERMINED. ISRAEL WAS HOPING FOR MORE THAN TWO BILLION DOLLARS.

"IT WAS UNDERSTOOD EGYPT WOULD NOT MAKE A PUBLIC PROMISE TO EASE THE ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL AND POLITICAL PRO-

PAGANDA, BUT WOULD GIVE A SECRET UNDERTAKING (SIC)."

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1.

CBS MORNING NEWS, HUGHES RUDD: "ISRAEL AND EGYPT CAME TO TERMS TODAY AND IF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S DIPLOMACY STICKS, THERE'LL SOON BE AMERICANS IN THE SINAI WATCHING TO SEE THAT ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN SOLDIERS STAY UNCLASSIFIED

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AT ARMS LENGTH. KISSINGER'S IN JERUSALEM RIGHT NOW WITH THE ISRAELI CABINET MEETING TO DISCUSS THE SETTLEMENT AND TO APPROVE IT -- PRESUMABLY -- AND WHILE THE SECRETARY ISN'T SAYING THAT THE AGREEMENT IS ABSOLUTELY SET, HE IS SUGGESTING PRETTY MUCH THE SAME THING."

BKALB: "KISSINGER SEEMED MORE RELAXED AND NOT ONLY BECAUSE CAMERAMEN WERE FILMING THIS BIT OF HISTORY. HE HAD STARTED THE DAY AT A MEETING JUST LIKE THIS ONE BUT WHEN HE LEFT AND LATER FLEW TO EGYPT FOR A SESSION WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, THE SECRETARY RADIATED A VERY DISCERNABLE NOTE OF CONCERN ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THIS ROUND OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY. THE RELAXED KISSINGER EMERGED ONLY ON THE FLIGHT BACK FROM ALEXANDRIA. THERE HAD BEEN SOME SUGGESTIONS BY THE EGYPTIANS, AND KISSINGER WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE VIEWS OF THE TWO SIDES WOULD CONVERGE ON THE LAST REMAINING ISSUES. THIS SESSION LASTED EIGHT HOURS. IT WAS TOWARDS THE END THAT AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES SAID THE BREAKTHROUGH WAS SCORED. THOUGH KISSINGER AND HIS ISRAELI COUNTERPART - FM ALLON -- TRIED THEIR BEST TO AVOID SAYING SO WHEN THEY EMERGED INTO THE JERUSALEM DAWN JUST BEFORE SIX THIS MORNING:

Q: DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE AN AGREEMENT NOW, SIR?

KISSINGER: I THINK IT'S SUBSTANTIALLY THERE, YES.

Q: SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS?

KISSINGER: LAUGHTER

Q: CAN I ASK THAT TO THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON- CAN YOU TELL US WHERE IN FACT THERE IS AN AGREEMENT, SIR?

ALLON: THE NEGOTIATING TEAM IS GOING TO REPORT TO THE CABINET, PRESENT THE DOCUMENT AND EXPLAIN WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

I THINK WE MADE VERY SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS AND THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'M GOING TO USE THE WORD WHICH I AVOIDED THROUGHOUT THE SHUTTLE -- THAT IS VERY CONSTRUCTIVE -- (LAUGHTER) ... LAST NIGHT. SERIOUSLY, THIS IS A DAY WHERE AN IMPORTANT DECISION MAY TAKE PLACE.

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KALB: FROM ONE SET OF REPORTERS, OUTSIDE THE PM'S OFFICE, TO ANOTHER SET OF REPORTERS INSIDE THE LOBBY OF THE KING DAVID HOTEL, KISSINGER IS STRIKING THE SAME THEME OF EVEN MORE OPTIMISM. BUT FOR DIPLOMATIC REASONS, HE AGAIN STOPPED SHORT OF PUBLICALLY CONFIRMING WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST AND MOST EXPECTED STORY IN JERUSALEM -- THAT THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS WOULD RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT TO THE ISRAELI CABINET. THAT APPROVAL TO BE FOLLOWED BY AN INITIALING OF THE AGREEMENT TONIGHT. THE AGREEMENT THAT ALLUDED HENRY KISSINGER LAST MARCH WAS NOW AT HAND ALONG WITH A HOPE THAT THE AGREEMENT WOULD HELP DIFFUSE THE MIDDLE EAST. "

2. NBC - TODAY SHOW: "PEACE IS AT HAND IN THE MIDDLE EAST BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER SAYS NEGOTIATORS FOR BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED ON AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT. "

VALERIANI: "KISSINGER WENT INTO HIS FINAL LATE NIGHT SESSION WITH ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS FOLLOWING ANOTHER QUICK SHUTTLE TRIP TO EGYPT. DURING THE MEETING, THE LAST REMAINING OBSTACLES TO A NEW SINAI SETTLEMENT WERE OVERCOME, AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT TO INITIAL THE TEXT TONIGHT. THE MEETING LASTED UNTIL FIVE O'CLOCK THIS MORNING. BUT AFTERWARDS KISSINGER

AND ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON APPEARED MORE BUOYANT THAN TIRED:

HAK: " AS YOU CAN GATHER THERE WERE A FEW MINOR TECHNICAL PROBLEMS ... (LAUGHTER) THAT REQUIRED ATTENTION. WELL; WE'VE BEEN MEETING FOR A FEW HOURS, (LAUGHTER) ATTEMPTING TO IRON OUT THE REMAINING TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AND I THINK WE HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY DONE SO ... (SAME ALLON CLIP AS CBS ABOVE)

VALERZANI: "THIS MORNING THE ISRAELI CABINET WAS CALLED INTO SESSION TO GIVE ITS APPROVAL TO THE AGREEMENT WHICH WILL RUN FOR ALMOST FOUR YEARS. THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES THAT ISRAEL WILL WITHDRAW FROM TWO STRATEGIC MOUNTAIN PASSES IN THE SINAI AND RETURN TO EGYPT PRODUCING OILWELLS
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AT ABU RUDEIS, IN EXCHANGE FOR AN EGYPTIAN PLEDGE NOT TO

USE FORCE AND VARIOUS POLITICAL CONCESSIONS. ISRAEL ALSO GETS SEVERAL POLITICAL PROMISES FROM THE UNITED STATES, PLUS MORE THAN TWO BILLION DOLLARS IN AID. ONE KEY ELEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT IS THE PROVISION FOR

THE STATIONING OF AMERICAN CIVILIANS TO MAN EARLY WARNING STATIONS IN THE SINAI TO GUARD AGAINST A SURPRISE ATTACK BY EITHER SIDE. THE FORD ADMINISTRATION WILL NOW ASK CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE AMERICANS AT THE MONITORING POSTS. AND IF CONGRESS APPROVES, AS THE ADMINISTRATION EXPECTS IT WILL DO, WHILE ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT AT GENEVA, THEN THE FINAL AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED AT GENEVA AROUND THE END OF THIS MONTH."

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